APA Format Tobias Patterson

Concluding Paragraph Connection 1940 (Jackie Robinson)  
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Point Of View

Thesis Statement

**Smashing the Color Barrier for Baseball.**

People never thought blacks and whites would ever get along in anything especially sports. My personally favorite sport is baseball, America’s past time. I have always loved playing the game. There are so many amazing things I have seen happen in this sport or heroes. Just like me others have loved this game, but one person loved the game so much he was willing to do one of the hardest things in life. I like this man for not only his athletic ability but his bravery and his courageousness. Jackie Robinson the first African American to play Major League baseball is the highlight of the 1940’s.

In the 1940’s there was a new thing happening to American Association/Major league of Baseball. I personally love baseball, it is truly a past time of America and in 1940 was probably a huge part for baseball. For the first time ever an African American was going to be playing ball with the white players. This man was Jackie Robinson, the man who smashed the color barrier, who also was the Player Of The Year in 1947, just was the jump African Americans needed to start somewhat being accepted by everyone, he was the first African American to play modern day Major League Baseball.

One of the thanks for Jackie Robinson being able to play in this league was to Dodgers executive Branch Rickey. Rickey wanted to have a black man back in professional baseball again, now Rickey wanted a man who was comfortable with the white world. Who could handle the hate, the remarks, but would be educated and very self disciplined enough that this would not bother him. Mr. Robinson was the man for this important job; his characteristics are what Rickey was looking for in this case.

Robinson the former Negro League player had surprised his teammates by taking this offer. He was the International League Rookie of the year with a league leading 113 runs scored. Now Jackie was known as a second baseman, but when he first playing for the Major league team Dodger’s he started first base. In 1947 is when he started second base for his Brooklyn Dodger’s. *(Wisnia, D. N. 2002)*

Now was more than just a athlete, he went to college Robinson attended UCLA, where he lettered in four sports: track, baseball, football and basketball... He served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1944... According to the official site of Robinson's estate, "Jackie married Rachel Isum, a nursing student he met at UCLA, in 1946." They had three children: Jackie Jr., Sharon and David. Robinson was also known for his pursuits outside the baseball diamond. He was the first African-American television analyst in Major League Baseball, and the first African-American vice-president of a major American corporation. In the 1960s, he helped establish the Freedom National Bank, an African-American-owned/controlled financial institution based in [Harlem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harlem), New York. In recognition of his achievements on and off the field, Robinson was posthumously awarded the [Presidential Medal of Freedom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidential_Medal_of_Freedom) and the [Congressional Gold Medal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congressional_Gold_Medal). ( *infoplease:http://www.infoplease.com/biography/var/jackierobinson.html)*

But back to his baseball career, when he left baseball and his last game was in 1956 October 10th for the Brooklyn Dodgers, his overall status was: 311 batting average, 1,518 hits, 137 home runs, and 197 stolen bases. Jackie batted and threw right handed, he played major league baseball for the Brooklyn Dodgers his whole baseball career. Mr. Robinson also had many awards and highlights not only in the 40’s but in that time period he had such highlights like: [Negro League All-Star](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Negro_League_Baseball_All-Star_Game) selection (1945), Six-time [All-Star](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_All-Star_Game) selection (1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954), 1947 MLB [Rookie of the Year](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_Rookie_of_the_Year_Award), 1949 [National League MVP](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_Most_Valuable_Player_Award), [Major League Baseball All-Century Team](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_League_Baseball_All-Century_Team), and so many more awards and highlights*.( Wikipedia:http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackie\_Robinson)*

Jackie Robinson not only risking his career as baseball player very easily put his life on the line doing what he did. Jackie smashed blew away everyone and was an amazing baseball player. His awards and medals will never be forgotten but him standing up for what he believed and loved is simply amazing. I believe he is a hero of baseball and a legend for the ages.